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The pagoda has been the scene of two disasters, besides those connected with earthquakes and lightning. On certain of the festival days the people like to go to a high place to get the view. When the pagoda was in repair it was natural that large crowds would climb to the top. On the 16th day of the first month of 1568 and again on the fifth day of the fifth month of 1773, the rumor got around that the magistrate was coming to lock the doors. Panic seized the people and in the scramble to get out many were crushed to death. The toll was 237 in 1568 and over 300 in 1773.

Extra good years, Ta Yu Nien, have been included in the list of calamities. Bumper crops evidently made marketing a difficult problem and forced prices to the minimum. The first of the good years listed was 1051, the third year of the Sung Emperor Huang Yu. The bumper crops were probably influenced by the floods of the previous year. The next good year was 1543, almost 500 years later. In 1562 the records say one tou of grain cost 25 cash and one tou of beans seven cash. In 1690 one tou of rice cost three cents silver and one tou of miscellaneous grains 1.5 cents silver. It seems strange to find this listed as a good year as there was a spring drought that warranted the remitting of the first half of the taxes, and there had also been a drought the year before. One-half of that year's taxes were remitted and grain was given out from the 10th month to the fourth month of 1690. The other specially good years were 1729, 1815, and 1856.

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The records report that wild bears were seen in Ting Hsien in 1585.

The hsien histories do not include in their list of calamities the times when Ting Hsien suffered loss at the hands of the military forces, but experience in North China from 1924 through 1931 made it evident that, whenever there was fighting in an area, levies were made on the countryside for carts, animals, manpower, and food. Money was secured by special assessments. Many a community had to pay large sums for being protected from threatening troops, or for being "saved" from the armed forces driven out by the new occupation forces. The amounts lost by the local population apparently varied from a small to a total loss. When Yen Wang "swept the North" the eaves swallows nested in the trees, because no houses were left in the area.

Levies were made on the countryside in October, 1927, when there was fighting between Chang Tso-lin and Yen Hsi-shan, and again in May, 1928, when the Nationalist forces, the National Revolutionary Army,

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722 fought with the National Pacification Army for possession of Hopei province.

The amount of the 1927 and 1928 civil war losses suffered by the families in the Experimental District was determined by a survey of the 62 villages. There was looting and requisitioning of property in both years, but not every village was affected. A special assessment, levied in 1928, was collected from all the villages.

The 1927 loss, reported by 42 villages, totaled $20,160. This was an average of $480 for each of the 42 villages affected, or $325 per village for the district. The amounts per village ranged from $20 to $4,400. Six villages reported losses of $1,000 or more. For nine of the villages, the loss was less than $100, for 19 it was less than $200. The loss per family averaged $2.60 for the affected villages and $1.90 for the entire district. If these averages were typical for the hsien, the hsien total was about $145,000.

In 1928 the looting and requisitioning loss was almost twice that of 1927. The amount reported was $39,865 in 40 villages. Twenty-six villages reported losses for both years. Eight villages escaped both years; at least they reported no loss.

The loss per village in 1928 ranged from $10 to $4,340. Only three of the 40 villages lost less than $100. Thirteen villages reported losses of more than $1,000 and eight over $2,000. The average was just under $1,000 per village for those affected, or $643 per village for the 62 villages.

The 1928 figures also gave the number of families that were affected. The total was only 435 out of a total of 6,453, or 6.7 per cent. In one village of 19 families, 18 reported loss. In another village, of 458 families, only four reported any war loss. The average loss was $91.60 for the families reporting, but only $3.80 for all the families in the district.

The $39,865 looting and requisitioning loss of 1928 was divided as shown in the table on page 453.

Relatively few oxen were taken. They probably were too slow for the troops. The other animals were divided very much as was the animal population on the 400 farms in Chapter III, except that the army took proportionately a few more horses and a few less donkeys.

Besides the looting and requisitioning losses, a special assessment was levied on all the villages in 1928. The amounts reported by the village heads ranged from $210 to $3,950. The total was $71,733.30, an average

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	Value	Average Value
127 mules	$11,390	$90
144 donkeys	5,815	40
61 horses	2,970	49
10 oxen	345	35
Ransom for cattle	1,145	
Clothes	4,260	
Carts	1,495	65
Crops	840	
Miscellaneous	3,945	
Money	7,660	
	$39,865	

of $1,157 per village. We have not been able to determine the basis of the assessment. It evidently was not levied according to the number of families or the number of mu in the village area. In the different villages, the amount per family varied from $3.10 to $12.60. The average was $6.90 per family, or about $1.15 per person. The amount per mu varied from 10.4 cents to 92.0 cents per mu of crop area and from 10.1 cents to 89.5 cents per mu of total area. The average was 30.3 cents per mu of crop area, or 28.6 cents for the entire district, crop land, waste land, roads, villages. There may have been some other basis for the levy, but it would appear that the amount levied on each village was arbitrarily fixed.

The combined requisitioning and assessment loss of 1928 totaled $111,595, an average of $1,800 per village and $11.11 per family. In the different villages, the average loss per family varied from $3.10 to $57.50.

If the Experimental District is an average sample, the hsien loss from requisitioning and looting in 1928 was between $270,000 and $295,000. The total special assessment was between $490,000 and $525,000. Together the total war loss for the hsien was between $760,000 and $820,000. The range in the amounts is the result of figuring them on the basis of two different averages, one the amount per family, the other the amount per village.

The losses for 1927 and 1928 together totaled $131,755 for the Experimental District, an average of $2,125 per village, or $12.60 per family. This would seem to indicate a total of almost $1,000,000 for the hsien. This did not, however, include the $323,440 collected for the anti-Red

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722 military campaign by a 100 per cent extra land tax levy in 1926 and a 200 per cent extra levy in 1927, or the $65,718 extra land tax collected in 1928 for rehabilitation and relief.

731 TABLE 113. CALAMITIES IN TING HSIEN, 106-1926[1]

A.D.		A.D.		A.D.	
106	Earthquake	1441	Drought	1655	Floods
284	Hail	1447	Locusts	1656	Floods
431	Drought	1520	Locusts	1666	Lightning
463	Frost	1543	Good year	1679	Earthquake, drought
476	Hail	1553	Drought, floods	1682	Hail
483	Drought	1554	Plague	1685	Drought, floods
503	Earthquake	1556	Floods	1689	Drought
510	Drought	1560	Locusts	1690	Drought, good year
521	Floods	1561	Drought	1693	Floods
528	Earthquake	1562	Thunder, good year	1696	Floods
575	Floods	1568	Pagoda panic	1697	Floods, earthquake
682	Hail	1577	Hail, thunder	1705	Locusts
776	Earthquake	1581	Earthquake, plague	1708	Drought
777	Earthquake	1586	Drought	1711	Drought
838	Locusts	1591	Locusts	1713	Snow
938	Drought	1597	Floods	1720	Earthquake
943	Locusts, drought	1607	Floods	1723	Storm, floods
945	Hail	1617	Locusts	1724	Floods
998	Hail	1623	Earthquake	1725	Hail
1037	Earthquake	1627	Earthquake	1729	Good year
1048	Floods	1638	Drought	1773	Pagoda panic
1050	Floods	1640	Drought	1775	Floods
1051	Good year	1642	Drought	1794	Floods
1268	Hail	1645	Floods	1801	Floods
1290	Drought	1646	Locusts	1802	Locusts
1292	Locusts	1653	Floods	1808	Floods
1326	Hail, drought	1654	Drought, floods		
1327	Hail				
1407	Floods				

1 Hsien histories.

(continued on next page)

6:Young et. al. E-5 (1928-1929) 1930 AF12 North China AF12

625 the size and condition of the house. The total expenses including wages and office expenses of $4 a month, amount to $110 a monlh, but in addition there is an extra $200 for uniforms and fur overcoats for the officers and men.

The north police station has one officer, one subordinate officer, and eleven policemen, and is of a higher class than the station on the south side. It has charge of sixteen villages in the eastern area of the district. In the western area there is a branch office maintaining one subordinate officer and six policemen. There are also four special stations, two in the road taxation bureaux, one at Hot Spring's Sanitorium, and one in a Japanese mining plant, the expenditure for which is about $150 per month with $500 additional expenses for the whole year. This money comes from three sources, the ½% taxation on grain sales, a small toll on carts and animals passing over the roads, and contributians from various Associations for the Protection of Grops in the eastern villages, and the balance is usually made up by the Chamber of Commerce.

625 ●722 During the emergency month in 1918 when the Fengtien troops were retreating from Peping to Mukden a body of volunteers was organised to help the police and guard in the defence of the district against both soldiers and robbers. Every family was supposed to contribute at least one member to answer any emergency calls under the direction of a president and two vice-presidents. The signal was given in one village, and the volunteers turned out with knives, sticks and farm implements, and succeeded in scaring

6:Young et. al. E-5 (1928-1929) 1930 AF12 North China AF12

away the marauders. Since the coming of the Party organisation the president has resigned, and the organisation has lapsed.

2. Self Government.

In Ching-ho we have district self-government and village self-government, the former having the advantage of knowing the county authorities and being the link between the official connty government and the local self government. The village and the county government have not many points of contact and the district government has taken advantage of this position, and holds the most important position in rural politics.

The self-government movement was started in 1915 when a school was established in Peping to give suitable training to would-be officers. Although the word used is *self government* the officers were appointed by the government direct, the village heads by the county government, and the district trustees by the governor of the Capital District of Peping. Two trustees were appointed for the Fifth District of Wan Ping, and two for every other village, all of whom continued to serve until the coming of the Party Organisation

Although there are these two systsms of self-government in Ching-ho, yet in practice they work very much together, using the same office, and dealing with the same problems. but it is the district self-government association that is the real functional organisation with the help of the village self-government associationn. All financial matters come under